

***CHESTERFIELD COUNTY
POLICE DEPARTMENT***

***2011
AWARDS AND RECOGNITION
CEREMONY***



***November 15, 2011
6:30 p.m.***

***Holiday Inn - Koger South Conference Center
James River Ballroom
1021 Koger Center Boulevard
Richmond, VA 23235***

AWARDS PROGRAM

Welcome and Introduction.....Corporal Kevin J. Bacon

*Posting of Colors.....Chesterfield County Police Department
Honor Guard*

Invocation/Blessing.....Police Chaplain Larry Tingle

Dinner

Introduction of Guest Host.....Corporal Kevin J. Bacon

Remarks.....Lisa Schaffner

Presentation of Awards.....Lisa Schaffner / Colonel Thierry G. Dupuis

Special Presentation.....Colonel Thierry G. Dupuis

DEPARTMENT AWARDS

Life Saving

Employees of the Year

Meritorious Service

Citizen Recognition & Appreciation

Mason T. Chalkley Award for Excellence

Supervisory Promotion Certificates

Closing Remarks..... Lisa Schaffner / Colonel Thierry G. Dupuis

*Retiring of Colors.....Chesterfield County Police Department
Honor Guard*

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Mr. Daniel A Gecker, Chairman, Midlothian District
Mr. James M. Holland, Vice Chairman, Dale District
Ms. Dorothy A. Jaeckle, Bermuda District
Mr. Arthur S. Warren, Clover Hill District
Ms. Marleen K. Durfee, Matoaca District



COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. James J. L. Stegmaier

CHESTERFIELD COUNTY POLICE COMMAND STAFF

Colonel Thierry G. Dupuis	Chief of Police
Lieutenant Colonel John C. Austin	Deputy Chief of Police, Support
Lieutenant Colonel L. Ben Mize	Deputy Chief of Police, Operations
Major Daniel W. Kelly	Commander, Operational Support Bureau
Major Karl S. Leonard	Commander, Uniform Operations Bureau
Major Terry L. Patterson	Commander, Investigations Bureau
Major Karen C. Carr, Acting	Commander, Uniform Operations Bureau
Mr. William J. Ritchie	Commander, Administrative Support Bureau
Captain Christopher J. Hensley	Commander, Homeland Security & Operational Preparedness
Captain Russell A. Lescault	Commander, Special Operations Division
Captain Haller E. Moser	Commander, Special Investigations Division
Captain David J. Pritchard	Commander, Criminal Investigations Division
Captain Brian C. Smith	Commander, Support Services Division
Captain Kevin L. Smith	Commander, Uniform Operations – South Division
Captain Lorrie A. Smith	Commander, Training Division
Captain David A. Stone	Commander, Uniform Operations – North Division
Captain Jason M. Zaccarine	Inspector, Office of Professional Standards
Mr. John A. McLenagan	Manager, Planning & Information Services Division
Ms. Kristin M. Sardeson	Manager, Police Human Resources Division
Ms. Theresa L. Simonson	Chief of Administrative Services

AWARD DESCRIPTIONS



Medal of Valor



Police Combat



Unit Citation



Rookie of the Year



Achievement



Operational Service



Police Star



Life Saving



MTC - Supervisory Award
for Excellence



Commendation



Safe Driving



Specialized Service



Purple Heart



Meritorious Service



Officer/Detective of
the Year



National Service



Tactical Service



Seniority

Medal of Valor - The Police Medal of Valor is awarded to full-time police officers that distinguish themselves conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of their life above and beyond the call of duty.

Police Star - The Police Star is awarded to officers who distinguish themselves by extraordinary bravery not justifying the award of the Medal of Valor. This decoration is the second highest award the department can present to an officer.

Police Purple Heart - The Purple Heart is awarded to officers injured while performing enforcement duties or initiating lifesaving activities.

Combat Ribbon - The Combat Ribbon is awarded to officers who come under hostile fire or other deadly assault and, who if not physically incapacitated, respond to the criminal act in some affirmative manner, such as returning weapon fire or attempting to otherwise subdue the assailant.

Life Saving Award - The Life Saving ribbon is awarded to officers who, by direct intervention, are reasonably determined to be responsible for saving the life of another.

Meritorious Service Award - The Meritorious Service Award may be awarded to members for exceptional meritorious service in a duty of great responsibility, the duty reflecting excellence in such performance.

Unit Citation - The Unit Citation is awarded to an organizational component of the Police Department that has performed as a group at a level above that which is expected. The accomplishment may be for a single event or for continuous superior performance over a specific period of time.

Mason T. Chalkley Supervisory Award for Excellence - The MTC-Supervisory Award for Excellence is awarded to an individual in a supervision or management position who has achieved the highest degree of overall excellence within the department.

Officer, Detective, and Civilian of the Year - The Officer, Detective and Civilian of the Year Award is awarded to an officer/civilian who has been voted Officer/Civilian of the Year by the chief's command staff, based on their superior performance throughout the year.

Chief's Commendation - The Chief's Commendation Ribbon is awarded to a police officer or non-sworn employee, for acts or deeds of commendable service in support of the overall department mission.

Citizen Recognition and Appreciation - The citizen recognition and appreciation certificate is awarded by the chief of police to citizens of the community for demonstrable, measurable and verifiable acts or deeds of significant service in support of the department or service to the community as a whole.

LIFE SAVING AWARD

Officer Michael J. Donnan
Officer 1st Class Christopher D. Rizzuti
Officer 1st Class Kevin A. Bates
Officer 1st Class David E. Ickes Jr.
Auxiliary Officer George M. Laffoon
Officer 1st Class James M. Aspesi
Officer 1st Class Michael G. Comeforo
Corporal Rodney Pretko
Senior Officer John K. Parris
Officer 1st Class Bryan J. Wyckoff
Master Officer Mark B. Donahue
Officer Stephen P. Floyd
Officer Daniel L. Bowen

Sergeant George R. Burgess Jr.
Officer Gordon M. Barry
Sergeant Jason A. Seamster
Officer Collin M. Griffiths
Auxiliary Officer Kenneth T. Roeber
Senior Officer Alexander M. Weisz
Career Officer Michael E. Nagosky
Senior Officer Stephan C. Rouze
Sergeant Rodrick W. Brown
Corporal Richard S. Tisdale
Career Officer William S. Francis III
Officer Allen C. Rowlett
Corporal Lawrence W. Russell

CITIZEN RECOGNITION AND APPRECIATION

Mr. James T. Johnson Jr.
Mr. Ivan L. Washington

2011 EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR

Rookie of the YearLisa M. Beckhusen
Special Presentation by the Chesterfield County Retired Police Officers' Association
Police Officer of the Year..... Jeffrey T. Godsey
Detective of the Year..... John S. Farmer Jr.
Civilian Employee of the Year.....Rebecca G. Robinson
ECC Officer of the Year.....Robert P. Balducci
Animal Control Officer of the Year.....Robert C. Leinberger
Auxiliary Officer of the Year.....Marc A. Chambers
Volunteer of the Year.....Joan I. Cole
Explorer of the Year..... Mariah Lowe

MASON T. CHALKLEY AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

Sergeant James J. Profita

MERITORIOUS SERVICE / SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Sergeant Ronnie L. Storts
Corporal Heinrich C. Pletch
Corporal John L. Gonzalez

SUPERVISORY PROMOTIONS



Rodrick W. Brown promoted to sergeant
Donald L. Story Jr. promoted to sergeant
Timothy R. Hellerstedt promoted to sergeant
Edward M. Pierpont promoted to sergeant
Harold R. Childs promoted to sergeant
Joseph D. Devivo II promoted to sergeant
Steven A. Bracciodieta promoted to sergeant
Jason G. Stocks promoted to sergeant
Mark L. Haynes promoted to sergeant
Michael B. Young promoted to sergeant



Timothy A. W. Spivey promoted to lieutenant
Richard P. McCullough Jr. promoted to lieutenant
Andrea L. Riesmeyer promoted to lieutenant
James W. Thornton promoted to lieutenant



Christopher J. Hensley promoted to captain
Brian C. Smith promoted to captain
Jason M. Zaccarine promoted to captain



Terry L. Patterson promoted to major

LIFE SAVING AWARDS



Officer Michael J. Donnan

On September 11, 2010, Officer Donnan responded to a call for an assault with a weapon. As Officer Donnan arrived, he immediately assessed the situation and found a male victim lying in the front yard with a stab wound to the chest. Officer Donnan located the suspect, who was still on scene, and detained her by placing her in his caged police vehicle. Turning his attention to the victim, Officer Donnan monitored his condition. At one point the victim lost consciousness and no pulse was detected. Officer Donnan began chest compressions and yelled for fellow officers to retrieve his AED. Officer Donnan established a pulse and the victim regained consciousness. Rescue arrived and transported the victim to the hospital where he was listed in critical but stable condition.

Officer Donnan is commended for his quick thinking and knowledge of CPR. His actions saved the citizen's life and prevented any further injury.

Sergeant George R. Burgess Jr.

Officer 1st Class Christopher D. Rizzuti, Officer Gordon M. Barry

On October 12, 2010, Sgt. Burgess, Officer Rizzuti and Officer Barry responded to a check the welfare call. Upon arrival, Officer Barry discovered the victim unresponsive behind the wheel of her running vehicle, locked in her garage. Sgt. Burgess broke the only window and, along with Officer Barry, entered the garage. The victim, who had staggered from her vehicle, was lethargic and had difficulty standing. Officers were able to obtain the code for the garage door and Officer Rizzuti escorted the female out of the garage to awaiting rescue personnel. During a follow up investigation Officer Rizzuti was told if the victim had not been removed from the garage within 15 minutes, it is likely she would not have survived.

Sgt. Burgess, Officer Rizzuti and Officer Barry are commended for their quick response and decisive action. Their life saving actions reflect great credit upon themselves and the Chesterfield County Police Department.

Officer 1st Class Kevin A. Bates

On January 1, 2011, Officer Bates responded to a serious car crash. Upon arrival, Officer Bates located the vehicle which was down an embankment and engulfed in flames. Officer Bates could see through the flames and smoke that someone's feet were hanging outside the open passenger door. Without hesitation, Officer Bates grabbed the feet of the occupant and pulled him from the vehicle despite the man's resistance. The man was highly intoxicated, yelling that his brother was in the backseat. Officer Bates had to aggressively pry him from the flaming vehicle to safety. No one else was located in the vehicle.

Officer Bates is commended for his selfless actions. His deeds reflect great credit upon himself and the Chesterfield County Police Department.

Officer Bates was also recognized by the VACP/VCPF and received the Bronze Valor Award from the Retail Merchant's Association, for his life savings actions.

LIFE SAVING AWARDS



*Sergeant Jason A. Seamster
Officer 1st Class David E. Ickes Jr., Officer Collin Griffiths
Auxiliary Officer George M. Laffoon, Auxiliary Officer Kenneth T. Roeber*

On January 15, 2011, Officers Griffiths, Ickes, Laffoon, Roeber and Sgt. Seamster responded to an attempted suicide call on River Road. Upon arrival, they observed an unresponsive man lying on the floor as two, 30 gallon propane tanks spewed propane gas inside the residence. Sgt. Seamster decided that entry to the residence was necessary and formed a rescue plan. After Officer Ickes ventilated the residence, the male occupant was observed getting off the floor and into a chair. Officers Laffoon, Griffiths and Sgt. Seamster then entered the residence to rescue the subject. At that point, the subject grabbed a fully loaded pistol from the table in front of him. Sgt. Seamster grabbed the weapon from the subject and with the assistance of Officers Laffoon, Griffiths, Roeber and Ickes, quickly removed him from the residence. As firefighters entered the residence to neutralize the propane tanks, the gas ignited starting a fire.

These officers are commended for their quick response and audacious actions. Their life saving actions reflect great credit upon themselves and the Chesterfield County Police Department.

These officers were also the recipients of the 2011 VACP/VCPF Valor Award for their actions.

Officer James M. Aspesi

On January 24, 2011, Officer Aspesi was dispatched to Warfield Estates Drive to assist rescue with a 37 year old female in full arrest. Officer Aspesi, rushed into the residence with his AED, immediately realizing the need for its use and CPR. As he set up the AED, Officer Aspesi instructed and directed the victim's father to begin rescue breathing. A total of two shocks were administered as Officer Aspesi and the victim's father performed CPR. Rescue personnel soon arrived and took over patient care. They advised that if not for Officer Aspesi's actions, the patient would not have survived.

Officer Aspesi is commended for his quick response and knowledge of CPR which saved the citizen's life. His life saving actions reflect great credit upon himself and the Chesterfield County Police Department.

LIFE SAVING AWARDS



Senior Officer Alexander M. Weisz
Officer 1st Class Michael Comeforo
(Special Presentation by Chesterfield County Sheriff's Office)

On February 8, 2011, Officers Weisz and Comeforo responded to Centerbrook Lane for an unresponsive female. As Officer Comeforo entered the residence and assessed the patient, Officer Weisz retrieved his AED and mask from his vehicle. While Officer Weisz gave rescue breaths, Officer Comeforo attached the AED to the victim. Once in place, the AED administered a shock to the victim. After the shock was given the officers began CPR. The officers continued CPR until rescue arrived. As rescue was preparing to take over patient care, the officers stopped CPR to assess the victim and found not only did she have a pulse, but was breathing on her own. Before being transported to the hospital, the officers were told by rescue that the victim had a strong pulse and a good blood pressure. They were also informed that the victim was a deputy with the Chesterfield County Sheriff's Office.

Officers Weisz and Comeforo are commended for their quick response and decisive actions which saved the deputy's life. Their life saving actions reflect great credit upon themselves and the Chesterfield County Police Department.

Career Officer Michael E. Nagosky

On March 12, 2011, Officer Nagosky responded to the Wawa on Midlothian Turnpike for a citizen passed out in a vehicle. Officer Nagosky approached the vehicle and found the driver unresponsive with no pulse and not breathing. Due to the driver's positioning in the vehicle, Officer Nagosky determined the victim's condition was due to positional asphyxia. Officer Nagosky removed the man from the vehicle and placed him on the ground. At that point, the victim began to breathe and regained a pulse. Shortly thereafter, rescue arrived on scene and took over patient care.

Officer Nagosky is commended for his experienced assessment of the citizen and quick actions. His life saving actions reflect great credit upon himself and the Chesterfield County Police Department.

Corporal Rodney Pretko

On March 13, 2011, Corporal Pretko was dispatched to assist the Fire Department with a possible full arrest. Corporal Pretko arrived on scene first and found a man lying on the floor without a pulse. Corporal Pretko deployed his AED and began CPR. After the AED shocked the man he gasped for air and began to show signs of life. The Fire Department took over patient care and transported him to the hospital.

Corporal Pretko is commended for his life saving actions. His efforts were instrumental in saving the citizen's life. Corporal Pretko is an asset to the Chesterfield County Police Department.

LIFE SAVING AWARDS



Senior Officer Stephan C. Rouze
Senior Officer John K. Parris

On April 19, 2011, Officers Rouze and Parris responded to a call for a suspicious individual on Jefferson Davis Highway. Upon arrival, both officers observed a female standing on the overpass looking down onto Chippenham Parkway. The female climbed onto the overpass barrier and advised the officers to stay away or she would jump. Officer Rouze spoke with the female and engaged her in a distracting conversation. During the exchange, Officers Rouze and Parris convinced the female to come off the barrier so that she could kick her purse to them. When the female climbed down to move the purse Officer Rouze grabbed her, and with the assistance of Officer Parris, placed her in protective custody. She later thanked the officers for saving her life.

Officers Rouze and Parris are commended for their exemplary use of communication skills and judgment. Their professionalism is an unquestionable reflection of them and to the Chesterfield County Police Department.

Sergeant Rodrick W. Brown
Officer 1st Class Bryan J. Wyckoff

On May 21, 2011, Sgt. Brown and Officer Wyckoff responded to an assist rescue call. They received information that an individual had overdosed on an unknown substance. Officer Wyckoff arrived on scene and found the patient to have a racing pulse and difficult, labored breathing. Sgt. Brown and Officer Wyckoff administered rescue breathing to assist the patient in getting oxygen. EMS personnel were delayed in their response for 5-10 minutes and if not for the efforts of Sgt. Brown and Officer Wyckoff, brain damage or death may have resulted.

Sgt. Brown and Officer Wyckoff are commended for the measures taken to provide medical assistance to a citizen in distress. Their life saving actions reflect great credit upon themselves and the Chesterfield County Police Department.

Corporal Richard S. Tisdale
Master Officer Mark B. Donahue

On May 31, 2011, Officers Tisdale and Donahue responded to a threatened suicide call. The victim's wife told Emergency Communications that her husband had barricaded himself in the basement of their home. He was under the influence of drugs and alcohol, had a knife and had attempted suicide before. Officer Donahue arrived on scene and could see the male through the locked sliding glass door. The male then secured a belt around his neck, which was hanging from an overhead crossbeam, and jumped. Officer Donahue immediately broke the glass, entered the residence and lifted the unconscious victim to take pressure off his neck. At that time, Corporal Tisdale arrived, climbed up to the crossbeam and unstrapped the belt. The victim fell to the ground and later regained consciousness.

Officers Tisdale and Donahue are commended for their actions which saved the victim's life. Their quick response is a positive reflection of their dedication to service and to the Chesterfield County Police Department.

LIFE SAVING AWARDS



Career Officer William S. Francis III Officer Allen C. Rowlett, Officer Stephen P. Floyd

On June 13, 2011, Officers Francis, Floyd and Rowlett responded to a domestic disturbance on Jessup Road. They encountered a distraught man who had climbed a tree and threatened to hang himself. The officers attempted to persuade the man to come down but he eventually jumped, hanging from the tree by his neck. Officers Francis and Floyd rushed to the man and held him up to relieve the pressure. Officer Rowlett climbed the tree and used his pocket knife to cut the victim down. Once the man was lowered to the ground, the officers determined he still had a pulse and summoned rescue. By the time rescue arrived on scene, the man had regained consciousness and was transported to Chippenham Hospital.

Officers Francis, Floyd and Rowlett are commended for their quick and decisive actions which prevented the citizen from taking his own life.

Officer Daniel L. Bowen

On August 27, 2011, the night of Hurricane Irene, Officer Bowen was flagged down by a citizen in the area of Rt.1/Willis Road. The citizen advised that his friend was lying face down on the floor at a nearby business. Officer Bowen responded and found the front of the business locked and saw the subject on the ground. Officer Bowen heard generators running inside the business and quickly determined the situation was carbon monoxide poisoning. Officer Bowen utilized his ASP baton and broke the window to gain entry. He then entered the business and dragged the victim outside to fresh air. The victim was unconscious and struggling to breathe. Arriving rescue personnel stated the victim's carbon monoxide levels were critical and transported him to Chippenham Hospital, where he later recovered and was released.

As a result of Officer Bowen's actions, the victim survived a potentially fatal incident. Officer Bowen is commended for his initiative and is a credit to the Chesterfield County Police Department.

Corporal Lawrence W. Russell

On September 4, 2011, Corporal Russell responded to an assisted living facility for an assist rescue call. When he arrived on scene, Corporal Russell found two nurses performing CPR on an individual. Corporal Russell saw that one of the nurses was extremely tired from performing CPR and took over compressions. Corporal Russell performed CPR on the victim for approximately 3-4 minutes while waiting for rescue and was able to obtain a weak pulse. Fire Department personnel arrived soon thereafter and transported the victim to a local hospital for treatment.

Through Corporal Russell's actions, the victim survived this incident without any permanent damage. His life saving action reflects great credit upon himself and the Chesterfield County Police Department.

CITIZEN RECOGNITION AND APPRECIATION AWARDS

Mr. James T. Johnson Jr.

On July 13, 2011, Mr. Johnson observed a suspicious male at his neighbor's house in the Meadowbrook Subdivision. He observed the male knock on the front door and walk around to the rear of the residence. A short time later, he observed the male carry a large screen TV to a vehicle. Mr. Johnson took the initiative to take photos of the suspect and immediately notified the police. Officer Encinas responded to the scene, and while speaking with Mr. Johnson, the suspect vehicle returned to the area. Mr. Johnson pointed out the vehicle and it was stopped by Officers Encinas and Balducci.

Computers, a television, coins and clothing were recovered from the suspect's vehicle. Further investigation revealed the suspect had forced his way through a rear door of the residence. The suspect had an extensive criminal history and was charged with burglary, grand larceny, vandalism, and driving on a suspended license.

Without Mr. Johnson's interest and quick actions, this burglary may not have been solved.

Mr. Ivan L. Washington

On July 19, 2011, a cement truck was traveling along Woodpecker Road. The driver swerved to avoid a deer causing his tires to drop off the right side of the roadway. The vehicle flipped onto its side and into a tree before spinning around and coming to rest on its side back in the roadway. There was heavy damage to the vehicle and the driver was pinned inside. The driver remained conscious, but suffered lacerations to his head and body. Mr. Ivan Washington came across the crash while driving students on his bus route from Matoaca High School to Manchester High School. He stopped and notified police dispatch about the crash and its location. Mr. Washington then observed flames emitting from the bottom of the engine area. He grabbed the fire extinguisher from his bus and put the fire out. Mr. Washington remained with the injured driver and kept him calm until police and rescue arrived on scene.

Mr. Washington is commended for his response during this incident. His actions saved the driver from further injury or possibly even death.

2010 EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR AWARDS



ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

Officer 1st Class Lisa M. Beckhusen

Officer Lisa Beckhusen is a graduate of the department's 54th Basic Academy. In the months since she graduated, Officer Beckhusen has worked tirelessly to achieve and maintain a consistent level of excellence. Between March 2010 and July 2011, Officer Beckhusen responded to 671 calls for service, made 198 criminal arrests, 380 traffic arrests, 40 DUI arrests, 1,336 keep checks, 1,620 neighborhood patrols, 563 directed patrols and conducted 172 field interviews. Consistently a top performer on her shift, her statistics are impressive, but they do not overshadow her positive attitude and continuous effort to improve her abilities through additional training.

During her first year Officer Beckhusen has made multiple drug arrests. As a result of one of those arrests, the Vice & Narcotics Unit was able to develop an informant and ultimately seize money, cocaine, a firearm, two vehicles and several other assets. Officer Beckhusen's professionalism and organizational skills have also been recognized by the courts. She was commended by the court liaison sergeant for her superior notes for a DUI case. Officer Beckhusen's thoroughness ultimately led to a guilty plea by the defendant. In addition, she was recognized for conducting a traffic stop that resulted in the apprehension of a shooting suspect.

Although a new officer, Officer Beckhusen's outstanding work ethic and unfailing professionalism surpasses that of a typical "rookie."

POLICE OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Career Officer Jeffrey T. Godsey

Career Officer Jeffrey Godsey is a 13 year veteran of the department. In July 2010, Officer Godsey entered the Basic Narcotics Canine Handler's Course as a new handler with an untrained dog; three months later, he and "Coal," his canine partner, were successfully certified through the Virginia Police Work Dog Association. Officer Godsey brought a wealth of knowledge to this position, having served as a member of the Street Drug Enforcement Unit and as a detective in the Vice & Narcotics Unit.

As a narcotics canine handler, Officer Godsey's ability to uncover narcotics use and trafficking is unsurpassed among his peers. During the past year, he has taken 196 calls, made 538 traffic stops, issued 119 traffic summonses and made 267 arrests. Because of his tenacious efforts, five illegal guns and more than \$10,000 have been seized. He consistently seeks out opportunities to drive down the crime rate, and has researched and sought approval for an enforcement action not currently utilized in this area.

In addition to his primary duties, Officer Godsey is a dedicated member of the SWAT Team and the Honor Guard. Officer Godsey is a determined adversary to the criminal element operating in Chesterfield County and has earned the title "Officer of the Year."

DETECTIVE OF THE YEAR

Corporal John S. Farmer Jr.

Detective Farmer is a 23 year veteran with the Chesterfield County Police Department. Detective Farmer is one of the Fugitive Unit's original members, having served in that capacity since 1999. Detective Farmer consistently faces this challenge with a positive attitude and an outstanding work ethic.

In the current calendar year, Detective Farmer has been involved in the arrests of 254 suspects wanted on a total of 463 charges. He has helped bring back 18 fugitives who absconded to other states, and assisted other jurisdictions in locating wanted suspects.

Detective Farmer is a member of the Metro Region Fugitive Task Force and a Special Deputy U.S. Marshal. He is willing to do whatever is necessary to accomplish the mission, spending countless hours following leads and routinely convincing wanted persons to turn themselves in. His interpersonal skills and experience allow him to work effectively with people from various agencies to find some of the regions most dangerous criminals.

Detective Farmer's determination, dedication and positive attitude are to be commended.

CIVILIAN EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Career Forensic Investigator Rebecca G. Robinson

Since joining the Forensic Unit in 1995, Investigator Robinson has served as a team leader, mentor and trainer to new unit personnel. She has become a recognized leader and expert in many areas of her field, not just within Chesterfield, but throughout the region.

As a major case investigator, Robinson's expertise is relied upon by both the Criminal Investigations Division and the Uniform Operations Bureau. During the past year, she has contributed to the forensic processing of seven homicides and approximately 270 other crime scene investigations. Investigator Robinson's dedication to the department extends beyond the business day. On several occasions, she responded to crime scenes after hours when she was not on call.

As a latent print expert, she has helped to identify hundreds of fingerprints that have resulted in numerous investigative leads. Investigator Robinson's skills, commitment to duty and professionalism have earned her the title "Civilian Employee of the Year."

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Emergency Communications Officer Robert P. Balducci

ECO Robert "Poal" Balducci is considered an informal leader on the evening shift in the Emergency Communications Center and an integral part of the ECO's training process. A dedicated member of the ECC for just over three years, he is a knowledgeable employee who is willing to share that knowledge with others.

In ECO Balducci's capacity as a Communications Training Officer, he ensures that his trainees receive comprehensive training, not only by relaying required technical material, but also by going above and beyond in developing his own training tools to further enhance their skills.

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Assistant Animal Control Supervisor Robert Leinberger

Rob Leinberger is an assistant supervisor and an integral part of the management team for the Animal Control Unit. His positive leadership skills and attitude assist the unit in exemplifying professionalism in the animal control community and among the citizens of Chesterfield County.

On February 2, 2011, Assistant AC Supervisor Leinberger was the supervisor in charge and lead investigator on an emotionally charged animal cruelty case in which a family pet was shot. This case demonstrated his abilities to supervise and direct a complex investigation while assisting the family with the loss of a pet. Assistant AC Supervisor Leinberger demonstrated the innate ability to handle these sensitive areas while maintaining focus on the investigation.

In addition, Assistant AC Supervisor Leinberger was the lead investigator on one of the county's most high profile cases in 2011. Emotionally charged by the death of an infant from a dog attack, this case gained national and international attention. Throughout his investigation Assistant AC Supervisor Leinberger remained professional and considerate to those involved, bringing the case to conclusion.

AUXILIARY POLICE OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Officer Marc A. Chambers

Officer Marc A. Chambers has exemplified what it means to be a key contributor to the agency. He has been a valuable part of the Auxiliary Unit since September 2008, graduating from the Auxiliary Police Academy on September 14, 2009. Officer Chambers has volunteered over 200 hours to the department this year, contributing one night per week to the department all while maintaining a full-time job and family. Officer Chambers is exceptionally active when he works, ensuring that summons service is maintained, Operation Park Protection is manned, and by operating the PTV. In addition, Officer Chambers places strong importance on the value of training and seeks ways to constantly improve the Auxiliary Unit as a whole.

Command Staff, supervisors and officers have all commented on how impressive they find Officer Chambers' court testimony. Officer Chambers always presents a polished and professional appearance in uniform which reflects highly upon the unit and the department.

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Mrs. Joan I. Cole

Joan Cole is currently a volunteer with Police Records Unit, regularly putting in between 25-30 hours per week. Assisting the unit primarily with scanning and other essential duties, Joan has scanned all supporting documents for incident years 2001-2005. In addition, she has scanned several voluminous major case files. Joan also assisted in the successful relocation of the Records Unit, over the summer, from police headquarters to its current location in the Eanes-Pittman Public Safety Training Center. Joan's energetic attitude and bright smile every morning are enjoyed by all. The Records Unit and Police Department are fortunate to have Joan as she exemplifies law enforcement professionalism and the county's goals of excellence in service.

EXPLORER OF THE YEAR

Ms. Mariah Lowe

Mariah Lowe has been a member of Law Enforcement Explorer Post 609 since August, 2010. During that time she has volunteered more than 200 hours to the department working events like Shred-it, MADD Walk, and Prescription Drug Take-Back. Mariah volunteers weekly in the Property and Evidence Unit and has an outstanding attendance record for explorer meetings and fundraisers. In addition she has completed ride-alongs in patrol and forensics. Mariah is a student at John Tyler Community College and is considering entering the military to serve her country.

MASON T. CHALKLEY AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

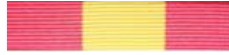
Sergeant James J. Profita

Sgt. Profita leads the department's Traffic/Motor and Aviation sections. Throughout the last year, his performance has been outstanding. His leadership skills have greatly improved and his positive working relationship with the sections' officers has led to an overall improvement in the unit's performance.

Sgt. Profita oversees a \$60,000 DMV grant that focuses on improving the overall traffic safety of the county. He administers and participates in DUI patrols, numerous checkpoints, as well as purchasing the necessary equipment for traffic enforcement. By successfully allocating department assets, Sergeant Profita addresses many citizens' concerns regarding traffic safety matters. Due to Sgt. Profita's efforts, officers have responded to fewer traffic fatalities. In addition to creating a more user friendly electronic traffic checkpoint tracking form, Sgt. Profita was instrumental in implementing the TREDs program for the department; identifying shortcomings for DMV and also participating in test groups before department wide implementation.

Sgt. Profita played a major role in writing the 2010 Law Enforcement Challenge report; the report focuses on three major traffic safety priorities, occupant protection, impaired driving and speeding, and serves the community through traffic safety activities. In addition to his many duties as a supervisor, Sgt. Profita handles a multitude of citizen complaints and keeps the complainants apprised of his findings. Working closely with the media, he keeps them informed of traffic initiatives, media releases regarding fatality crashes, and notification of "public service" announcements and programs. Sgt. Profita is also the recipient of the 2011 MADD Award.

MERITORIOUS SERVICE



Sergeant Ronnie L. Storts

Sergeant Ron Storts has served on the Chesterfield County Police Department's SWAT Team for 10 years. During that time, he has served in many capacities including entry team operator, sniper, assistant team leader and team leader. He has responded to numerous high risk calls for service involving suicidal subjects, hostage situations, high risk warrant service and numerous other critical incidents. His exceptional performance during these tactical incidents have led to numerous successful outcomes and have ultimately saved lives.

As a SWAT Team leader, Sergeant Storts has demonstrated courage in the face of critical, volatile and quickly changing situations. His dedication to the success of the SWAT Team has been essential in the team being recognized and respected nationally by others in the law enforcement community.

Corporal Heinrich C. Pletch

Corporal Heinrich Pletch has served on the Chesterfield County Police Department's SWAT Team for over 17 years. During this time, he has served in many capacities including entry team operator, breacher, and sniper. He has responded to numerous high risk calls for service involving suicidal subjects, hostage situations, high risk warrant service and numerous other critical incidents. His exceptional performance during these tactical incidents have led to numerous successful outcomes and have ultimately saved lives.

As a SWAT Team operator, Corporal Pletch has demonstrated courage in the face of critical, volatile and quickly changing situations. His dedication to the success of the SWAT Team has been essential in the team being recognized and respected nationally by others in the law enforcement community.

Corporal John Gonzalez

Since 2000, Corporal John Gonzalez has served on the Chesterfield County Police Department's SWAT Team. During this time, he has served in many capacities including entry team operator, breacher, and gas munitions operator. He has responded to numerous high risk calls for service involving suicidal subjects, hostage situations, high risk warrant service and numerous other critical incidents. His exceptional performance during these tactical incidents have led to numerous successful outcomes and have ultimately saved lives.

As a SWAT Team operator, Corporal Gonzalez has demonstrated courage in the face of critical, volatile and quickly changing situations. His dedication to the success of the SWAT Team has been essential in the team being recognized and respected nationally by others in the law enforcement community.



We would like to thank the Chesterfield County Police Foundation for their support and sponsorship of this event. We would also like to extend a special thank you to the Police Awards and Recognition Committee for their preparation and assistance for this event.